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Measures to eliminate international terrorism

Security Council
Fifty-sixth year

Letter dated 13 September 2001 from the Permanent Representative of Uzbekistan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the statement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Uzbekistan dated 13 September 2001 (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under item 178 of the provisional agenda, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Alisher **Vohidov**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

* A/56/150.

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Annex to the letter dated 13 September 2001 from the Permanent Representative of Uzbekistan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

[Original: Russian]

Statement by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Uzbekistan

The people of Uzbekistan have been outraged and profoundly moved by the inhuman acts of terrorism perpetrated on 11 September of this year, which have resulted in the loss of thousands of human lives in the United States.

In a letter to President George Bush of the United States, the President of Uzbekistan, Islam Karimov, condemned the barbaric action and emphasized the importance of joining forces to combat the terrible evil of terrorism.

Today, terrorism represents the most serious threat to international peace and security.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs deems it necessary to recall that Uzbekistan was the first Member State of the United Nations to raise the issue of the advisability of establishing a specialized international structure responsible for coordinating activities to ensure the full implementation of resolutions concerning the fight against terrorism, its manifestations and its sources of financing.

On two occasions, at the summit of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe held in Istanbul, in 1999, and at the Millennium Summit of 2000, Uzbekistan raised the issue of establishing within the context of the United Nations an international centre to combat terrorism.

Mention was made, in the final document of the international conference on "Enhancing Security and Stability in Central Asia: An Integrated Approach to Counter Drugs, Organized Crime and Terrorism", of the need to establish such a centre; this initiative was supported, in turn, in the resolution which the General Assembly adopted in December 2000.

Even though a sizeable number of States expressed support for the idea, no practical steps have been taken thus far in this regard.

In view of the tragic events that have occurred in the United States and bearing in mind the special resolution which the Security Council adopted at the opening of the fifty-sixth session of the General Assembly, which condemns terrorist acts, the Republic of Uzbekistan considers it its duty to propose to the Secretary-General that effective and urgent measures be taken to establish an international centre to combat terrorism.

Tashkent
13 September 2001